



Australian Bureau of Statistics

6239.0 - Barriers and Incentives to Labour Force Participation, Australia, July 2010 to June 2011

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Summary

Main Features

NOTES

ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION

This publication presents information about people aged 18 years and over who are either not employed or who usually worked less than 16 hours. In respect of employed people, the Barriers and Incentives to Labour Force Participation topic collects data only for those working less than 16 hours, as they have the potential to increase their labour force participation by a greater amount. The data collected provides information on the potential labour force and the characteristics of that potential labour force. Data from this survey are used to obtain a better understanding of the factors that influence people to participate (more) in the labour force and the hours they work. By identifying the barriers that people face in joining the labour force or in working greater hours, a range of incentives to increase labour force participation and hours worked may then be identified.

The statistics in this publication were compiled from the Multipurpose Household Survey (MPHS), conducted throughout Australia during the 2010-11 financial year, as a supplement to the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) monthly Labour Force Survey.

Information on the other topics collected in the 2010-11 MPHS can be found in paragraph 1 of the Explanatory Notes.

CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

No new content was included in the 2010-11 survey, as it only contained core content. As a result, questions on incentives to join or increase participation in the labour force and self assessed health that were included in the 2008-09 survey, have been excluded. For a full list of data items, see Appendix 1: Populations and data items list.

NOTES ABOUT ESTIMATES

The MPHS was designed primarily to provide estimates at the Australia level. Broad estimates are also available for states and territories, although users should exercise caution when using estimates at this level, because of the presence of high sampling errors. For further information about the reliability of the estimates see paragraph 14 of the Explanatory Notes.

ROUNDING

As estimates have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

INQUIRIES

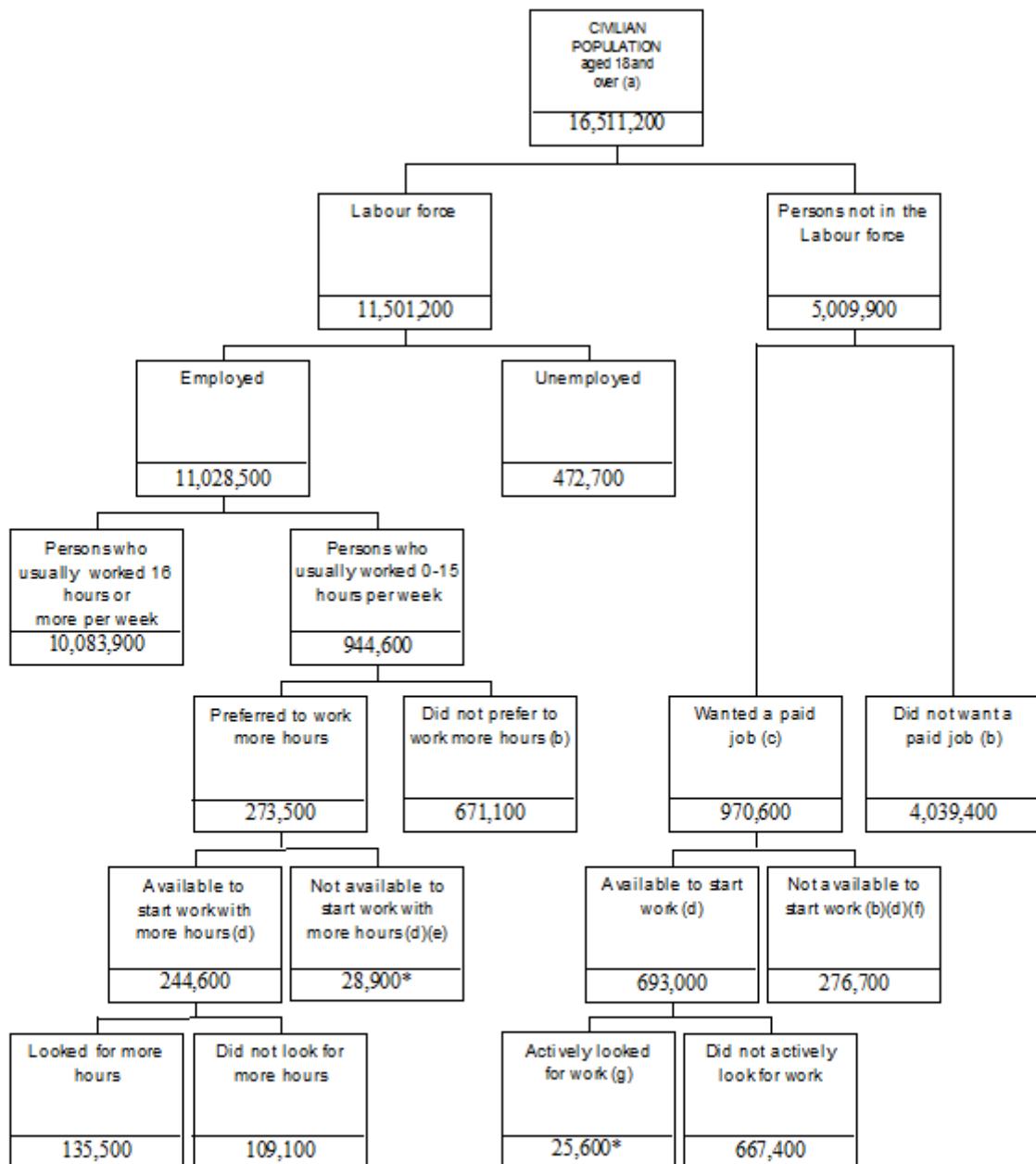
For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070 or Labour Market Statistics Section on Canberra (02) 6252 7206, email <labour.statistics@abs.gov.au>.

Conceptual Framework

CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

OVERVIEW

In attempting to understand the barriers to increased labour force participation there are several groups of people who are of particular interest. These are the unemployed, persons not in the labour force and those who usually worked less than 16 hours. For persons not in the labour force and those who usually work less than 16 hours it is important to ascertain whether they would like a paid job or more hours, whether they are available to start work, and whether they are looking for work. The conceptual framework below identifies these groups of people.



* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

(a) Excludes people who are living in 'Very remote' areas and 'Special dwellings'. See paragraph 7 of the Explanatory notes.

(b) Includes people who reported 'Did not know'.

(c) Includes people who reported 'Maybe/It depends'.

(d) Availability refers to reference week or within four weeks.

(e) All of this group reported that they did not look for more hours.

(f) Of this group, 8,500* people actively looked for work and the remaining 268,200 people did not actively look for work.

(g) These people were not available to start work in the reference week so they are defined as not in the labour force rather than unemployed.

Summary of Findings

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

OVERVIEW

The 2010-11 Multipurpose Household Survey (MPHS) revealed that of the 16.5 million people aged 18 years and over, there were 6.4 million people who were not employed or who worked fewer than 16 hours. This group comprised people not in the labour force (5.0

million), the unemployed (472,700 people) and people working fewer than 16 hours (944,600 people).

Of those 6.4 million people, approximately 1.7 million (or 27%) indicated that they would like a job or to work more hours. This group comprised:

- 970,600 (or 57%) people who wanted a paid job but were not in the labour force;
- 472,700 (or 28%) people who were unemployed; and
- 273,500 (or 16%) people who usually worked fewer than 16 hours per week but wanted to work more.

The remaining 4.7 million people (or 73%) did not want a job or did not want to work more hours, or were undecided.

Estimates are based on data collected between the period of July 2010 and June 2011.

PEOPLE WHO WANTED A JOB OR MORE HOURS

There were 1.7 million people who wanted a job or preferred more hours. Determining whether these people are available to work is important because those who are available have a greater potential to participate or increase their participation in the labour force than those who are not available.

Of the 1.7 million people who wanted a job or preferred more hours:

- 1.4 million people were available to start work within four weeks. Of these:
 - 776,500 people were not looking for work or more hours; and
 - 633,800 people were looking for work or more hours.
- 305,600 people were not available to start work or work more hours within four weeks.

Women represented sixty percent (60%) of those who wanted a job or preferred more hours. This reflects the fact that more women are underemployed or not in the labour force than men.

Available but not looking for a job or work with more hours

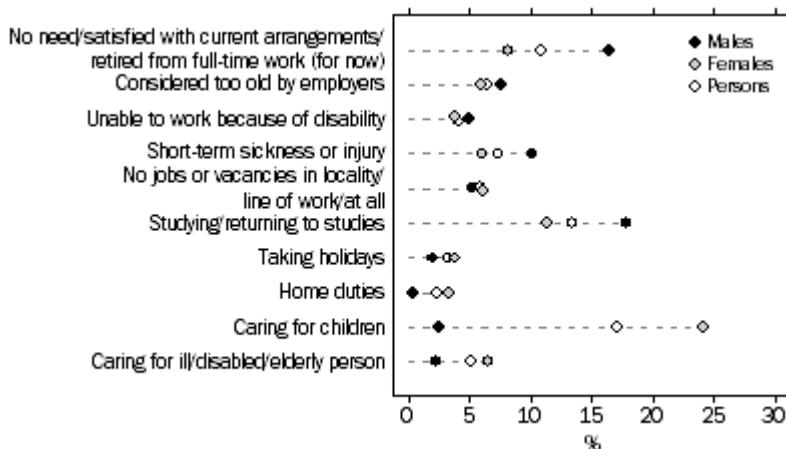
Of the 1.4 million people who wanted a job or more hours and were available to start work within four weeks, an estimated 776,500 people (55%) indicated that they were not looking for a job or more hours. Most of this group were women (522,400 or 67%) and most were not in the labour force (667,400 or 86%).

'Caring for children' was the most commonly reported main reason for not looking for work or more hours (132,500 people). Women comprised the majority of this group (95% or 126,200). For those people who cited 'caring for children' as their main reason for not looking for work or more hours, 53,400 people (40%) reported they 'preferred to look after children' as the main reason for this, while 30,800 people (23%) reported 'children too young or too old for childcare'.

Another commonly reported main reason for not looking for work or more hours was 'studying/returning to studies' (104,200 people). Most people who reported this (72% or 75,400) were aged between 18 and 29 years, with 35% in this age group citing it as their

main reason.

PERSONS AVAILABLE BUT NOT LOOKING FOR A JOB OR WORK WITH MORE HOURS, Selected main reason for not looking for work/more hours



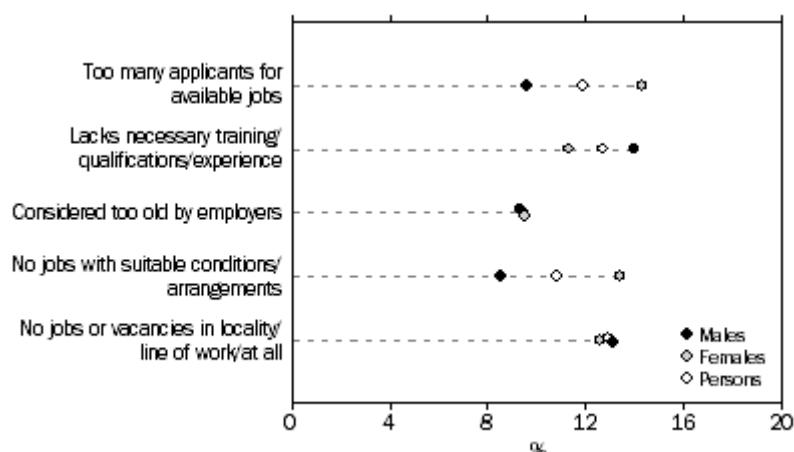
Available and looking for a job or work with more hours

There were 633,800 people who wanted a job or more hours, were available, and were looking for work or more hours, of whom:

- Over half (52%) were men;
- 472,700 were unemployed (75%);
- 135,500 usually worked fewer than 16 hours (21%); and
- 25,600 were not in the labour force (4%) (these people are defined as not in the labour force rather than unemployed because they were not available to start work in the reference week, but were available to start within four weeks).

One of the main difficulties in finding a job reported by people who were available and looking for a job or work with more hours was 'no jobs or vacancies in locality or line of work or at all' (81,500 people or 13%). Just over half of those who reported this (53%) were men. 'Lacks necessary training/qualifications/experience' was another commonly reported difficulty (80,300 people or 13%), and 57% of those reporting this were men.

PERSONS AVAILABLE AND LOOKING FOR A JOB OR WORK WITH MORE HOURS, Selected main difficulty finding work/more hours

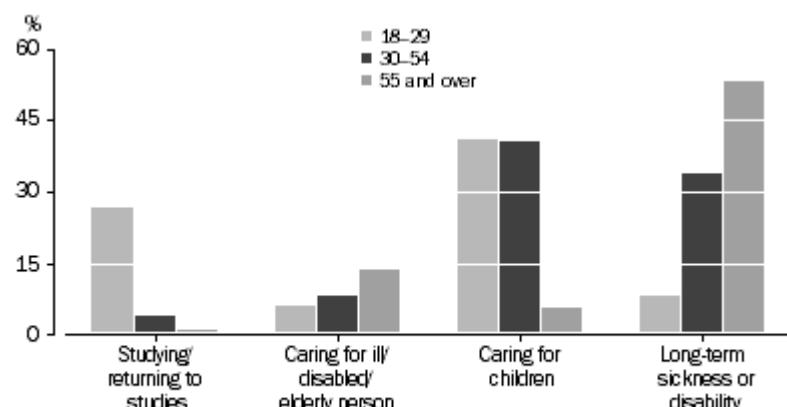


Not available to start a job or work with more hours

There were 305,600 people who wanted a job or more hours but who were not available to do so. Most of these (91%) were not in the labour force, while the remaining 9% comprised people who worked fewer than 16 hours. Just over two-thirds (209,100 or 68%) of those who wanted work or more hours but were not available were women.

The reasons given by people for their unavailability varied by age, reflecting the fact that the reasons tend to change across the stages of the life cycle. The most common main reasons given by young people (those aged 18-29 years) for their unavailability was 'caring for children' (41%). For those aged 30-54 years who wanted to work (more) but were unavailable, 41% cited 'caring for children' as their main reason while a further 34% reported 'long-term sickness or disability' as their main reason. For older people (aged 55 years and over) 'long-term sickness/injury' was their most commonly reported main reason (53%).

PERSONS WHO WANTED A JOB OR WORK WITH MORE HOURS, BUT WERE NOT AVAILABLE(a), Age by selected main reason not available to start work/more hours

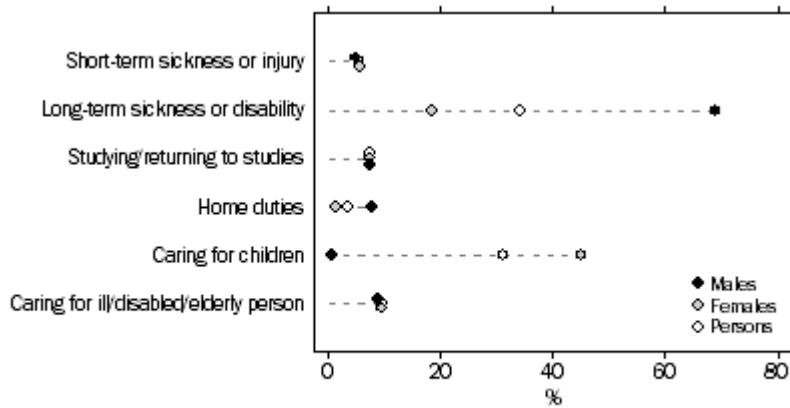


(a) Availability refers to the reference week or within four weeks.

Men and women had different reasons for not being available to start work or more hours within four weeks. About 45% of the 209,100 women who wanted to work (more) but were unavailable reported that 'caring for children' was their main reason for their unavailability. Almost half (95,700) of women not available to start work reported that their youngest child was aged four years or less. The next commonly reported main reason given by women for not being available was 'long-term sickness or disability' (18% or 38,300). Over one-third of women who were not available to start work or more hours within four weeks reported that they would be available to start work or more hours within 6 months.

Of the 96,400 men who wanted a job or more hours but were not available, almost seventy percent reported that their main reason for unavailability was 'long-term sickness or disability' (69% or 66,400). Of the men not available to start work, 19% reported that they would be available to start work or more hours within 6 months.

PERSONS WHO WANTED A JOB OR WORK WITH MORE HOURS, BUT WERE NOT AVAILABLE(a), Selected main reason not available to start work/more hours



(a) Availability refers to the reference week or within four weeks.

Preferred weekly hours

Of the 970,600 people not in the labour force who wanted a job, 78% reported that they would prefer to work part-time hours (64% of men and 84% of women). The average preferred number of hours was 27 (29 hours for men and 27 hours for women).

For those who worked few hours, males preferred an average of 28 hours per week, whereas females preferred an average of 26 hours.

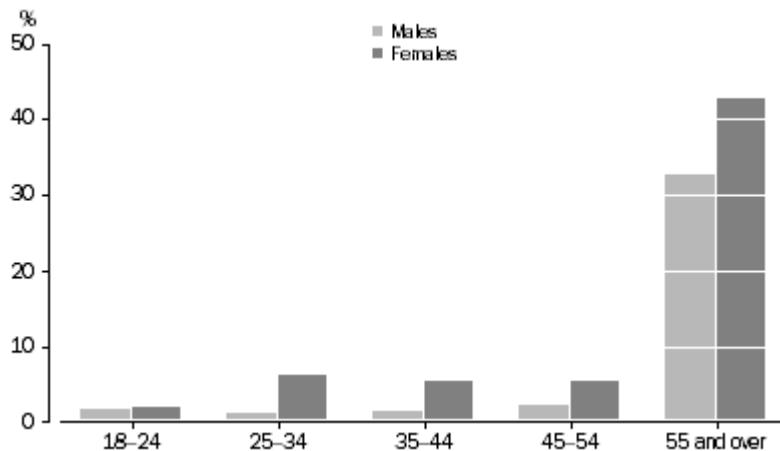
PEOPLE WHO DID NOT WANT (MORE) WORK

Seventy-three percent (or 4.7 million) of those who were not employed or who worked fewer than 16 hours indicated that they did not want (more) work. This comprised:

- 4.0 million people (2,478,200 women and 1,561,200 men) who were not in the labour force; and
- 671,100 people (489,000 women and 182,200 men) who usually worked fewer than 16 hours.

People who were not in the labour force and didn't want to work were generally older - 75% of them were aged 55 years and over. Women aged 55 years and over formed the largest single group, representing 43% of those who were not in the labour force and did not want to work, while men of that age represented 33%. Men in the younger age groups represented only a very small proportion of those not in the labour force who didn't want to work - men aged 18-54 years formed just 6% of this group. In contrast, women aged 18-54 years formed 19%.

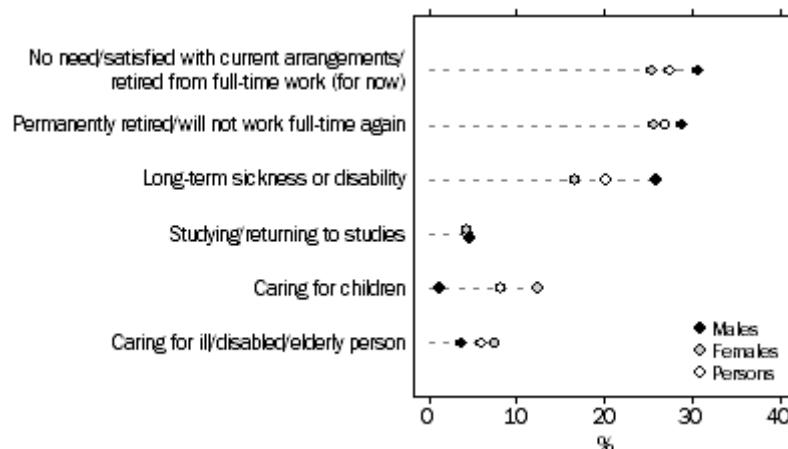
PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE WHO DID NOT WANT TO WORK, Age and sex distribution



Of the 4.0 million people not in the labour force who did not want to work, the most commonly reported main reasons for not wanting a job were 'no need/satisfied with current arrangements/retired from full-time work (for now)' (27% or 1.1 million), and 'permanently retired from full time work' (27% or 1.1 million), then 'long-term sickness or disability' (20% or 815,200).

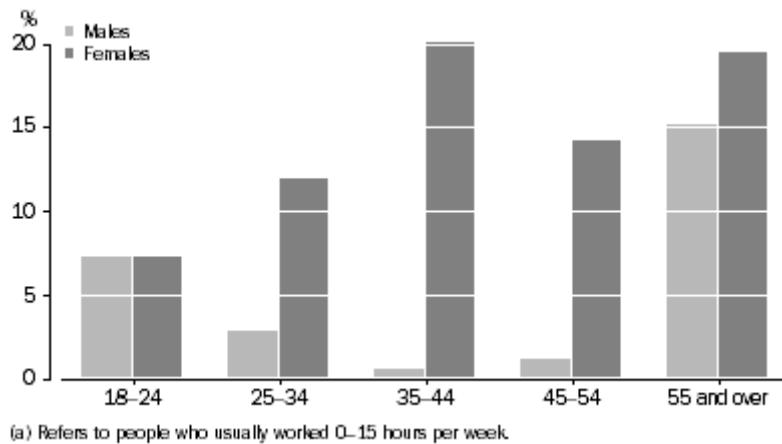
'Long-term sickness or disability' was reported by 26% of men (or 404,500), with the highest proportion of these aged 55 years and over (78%). Twelve percent of women (or 307,600) indicated the main reason that they did not want to work was due to 'caring for children'. Most of these women were aged 30-54 years (68%). Of the 18-29 years age group, 47% reported that 'studying or returning to studies' was the main reason they didn't want to work.

PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE WHO DID NOT WANT TO WORK, Selected main reason for not wanting work



Men and women who usually worked fewer than 16 hours and didn't want more hours were relatively young - 50% of them were aged between 18 and 44 years. Women made up approximately three-quarters of those (73%) who worked fewer than 16 hours and who didn't want more work. The 55 years and over and 30-54 years age groups for women, each accounted for 20% of those working fewer than 16 hours and not wanting more work. Men aged 55 years and over formed the largest group (15%) of those who worked fewer than 16 hours and did not want more work.

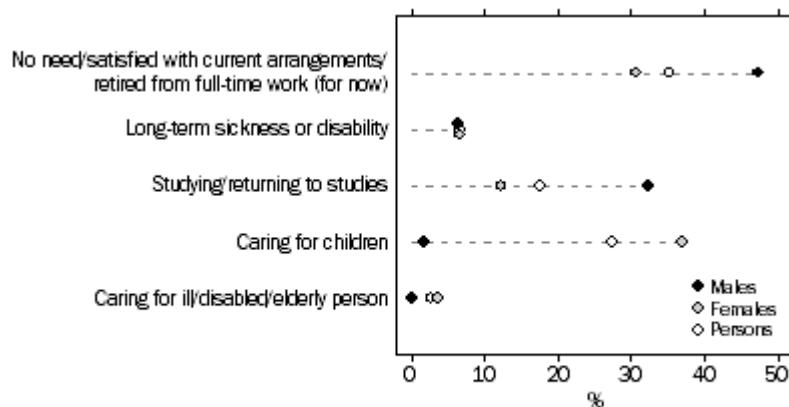
PERSONS WHO USUALLY WORKED FEWER THAN 16 HOURS(a) AND DID NOT WANT TO WORK MORE, Age and sex distribution



The most commonly reported main reason that women gave for not wanting more hours was 'caring for children' (37% or 180,700 women gave this response). Over half of women (56%) aged 30-54 years not wanting more hours (or 159,400) reported this as the main reason. Nearly one third (31%) of women working fewer than 16 hours who did not want to work more hours indicated that their main reason was 'no need/satisfied with current arrangements/retired from full-time work (for now)'.

There were 182,200 men who usually worked fewer than 16 hours and did not want more hours. The most commonly reported main reason given by 47% of those men for not wanting more hours was 'no need/satisfied with current arrangements/retired from full-time work (for now)', almost all of this group is aged 55 years and over. This was followed by 'studying/ returning to studies' (32% or 58,800), with 91% of this group aged 18-29 years.

PERSONS WHO USUALLY WORKED FEWER THAN 16 HOURS(a) AND DID NOT WANT TO WORK MORE, Selected main reason for not wanting more hours



(a) Refers to people who usually worked 0–15 hours per week.

About this Release

Provides information about people who are 18 years and over who are unemployed, not in the labour force or worked less than 16 hours. Data from this survey are used to obtain a better understanding of the factors that influence people to join or leave the labour force. By knowing the barriers people have to wanting, finding or taking up (more) employment a range of incentives to labour force participation can be indirectly identified. Estimates can be cross-classified by demographics such as state, sex, age, marital status and country of birth, as well as labour force characteristics.

Explanatory Notes

Explanatory Notes

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

1 The statistics presented in this publication were compiled from data collected in the Multipurpose Household Survey (MPHS) that was conducted throughout Australia in the 2010-11 financial year as a supplement to the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) monthly Labour Force Survey (LFS). The MPHS is designed to provide statistics annually for a small number of labour, social and economic topics. The topics collected in 2010-11 were:

- Barriers and Incentives to Labour Force Participation, Australia (cat. no. 6239.0)
- Retirement and Retirement Intentions, Australia (cat. no. 6238.0)
- Patient Experience (cat. no. 4839.0)
- Learning and Work History (cat. no. 4235.0)
- Cultural Participation (cat. no. 4921.0)
- Household Use of Information Technology, Australia (cat. no. 8146.0)
- Crime Victimisation, Australia (cat. no. 4530.0)

2 For all topics, information on labour force characteristics, education, income and other demographics are also available. In addition to these publications, data from the 2010-11 MPHS will be available to be tabulated via Survey TableBuilder (STB) in early 2012.

3 The publication Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0) contains information about survey design, sample redesign, scope, coverage and population benchmarks relevant to the monthly LFS, which also apply to the MPHS. It also contains definitions of demographic and labour force characteristics, and information about telephone interviewing which are relevant to both the monthly LFS and the MPHS.

CONCEPTS SOURCES AND METHODS

4 The conceptual framework used in Australia's LFS aligns closely with the standards and guidelines set out in Resolutions of the International Conference of Labour Statisticians. Descriptions of the underlying concepts and structure of Australia's labour force statistics, and the sources and methods used in compiling these estimates, are presented in Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods (cat. no. 6102.0.55.001).

COLLECTION METHODOLOGY

5 ABS interviewers conducted personal interviews by either telephone or at selected dwellings during the 2010-11 financial year. Each month a sample of dwellings were selected for the MPHS from the responding households in the LFS. In these dwellings, after the LFS had been fully completed for each person, a usual resident aged 15 years and over

was selected at random and asked the additional MPHS questions in a personal interview. Information was collected using Computer Assisted Interviewing (CAI), whereby responses are recorded directly onto an electronic questionnaire in a notebook computer.

SCOPE

6 The scope of the LFS is restricted to people aged 15 years and over and excludes the following people:

- members of the permanent defence forces;
- certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, customarily excluded from census and population estimates;
- overseas residents in Australia; and
- members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants).

7 In addition the 2010-11 MPHS excluded the following:

- people living in very remote parts of Australia; and
- people living in non-private dwellings such as hotels, university residences, students at boarding schools, patients in hospitals, residents of homes (e.g. retirement homes, homes for people with disabilities), and inmates of prisons.

8 For the Barriers and Incentives to Labour Force Participation topic, the scope was further restricted to people aged 18 years and over.

9 The 2010-11 MPHS was conducted in both urban and rural areas in all states and territories, but excluded people living in very remote parts of Australia. The exclusion of these people will have only a minor impact on any aggregate estimates that are produced for individual states and territories, except for the Northern Territory where such people account for around 23% of the population.

COVERAGE

10 In the LFS, coverage rules are applied which aim to ensure that each person is associated with only one dwelling and hence has only one chance of selection in the survey. See [Labour Force, Australia](#) (cat. no. 6202.0) for more details.

SAMPLE SIZE

11 The initial sample for the MPHS 2010-11 consisted of approximately 19,280 private dwelling. Of the 16,376 private dwellings that remained in the survey after sample loss (e.g. households with LFS non-response, no residents in scope for the LFS, vacant or derelict dwellings and dwellings under construction), approximately 80% were fully responding to the MPHS. The number of completed interviews obtained from these private dwellings (after taking into account scope, coverage and subsampling exclusions) was 5,374 for the Barriers and Incentives to Labour Force Participation survey.

ESTIMATION METHODS

12 Weighting is the process of adjusting results from a sample survey to infer results for the total in scope population. To do this, a 'weight' is allocated to each sample unit, which, for the MPHS, can either be a person or a household. The weight is a value which indicates how many population units are represented by the sample unit. The first step in calculating weights for each unit is to assign an initial weight, which is the inverse of the probability of being selected in the survey. The initial weights are then calibrated to align with independent estimates of the population of interest, referred to as 'benchmarks'. Weights are calibrated against population benchmarks to ensure that the survey estimates conform to the independently estimated distribution of the population rather than the distribution within the sample itself.

13 The survey was benchmarked to the estimated civilian population aged 15 years and over living in private dwellings in each state and territory, excluding the scope exclusions listed under Explanatory Notes 6 to 8. For person estimates, the MPHS was benchmarked to the Estimated Resident Population (ERP) in each state and territory, excluding the ERP living in very remote areas of Australia, at 31 March 2011. The MPHS estimates do not (and are not intended to) match estimates for the total Australian person/household populations obtained from other sources (which may include persons living in very remote parts of Australia).

RELIABILITY OF THE ESTIMATES

14 Estimates in this publication are subject to sampling and non-sampling errors:

- Sampling error is the difference between the published estimate and the value that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey. For more information see the Technical Note.
- Non-sampling errors are inaccuracies that occur because of imperfections in reporting by respondents and interviewers and errors made in coding and processing data. These inaccuracies may occur in any enumeration, whether it be a full count or a sample. Every effort is made to reduce the non-sampling error to a minimum by careful design of questionnaires, intensive training and supervision of interviewers and effective processing procedures.

CLASSIFICATIONS USED

15 Country of birth data are classified according to the Standard Australian Classification of Countries (SACC), Second Edition, 2008 (cat. no. 1269.0).

16 Occupation data are classified according to the ANZSCO - Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations, First Edition, Revision 1, 2009 (cat.no. 1220.0).

17 Industry data are classified according to the Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC), 2006 (cat. no. 1292.0).

18 Educational attainment data are classified according to the Australian Standard Classification of Education (ASCED), 2001 (cat. no. 1272.0).

COMPARABILITY WITH MONTHLY LFS STATISTICS

19 Due to difference in the scope and sample size of the MPHS and that of LFS, the estimation procedure may lead to some variations between labour force estimates from this survey and those from LFS. For the 2010-11 Barriers topic, this has impacted on estimates of persons not in the labour force, with these being lower than those from LFS averaged over the 12 month period.

PREVIOUS SURVEYS

20 The Barriers and Incentives to Labour Force Participation survey was last conducted in the 2008-09 financial year. Results of this survey were published in:

- **Barriers and Incentives to Labour Force Participation, Australia, July 2008 to June 2009** (cat. no. 6239.0)

CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

21 No new content was included in the 2010-11 survey, as it only contained core content. As a result, questions on incentives to join or increase participation in the labour force and self assessed health that were included in the 2008-09 survey, have been excluded.

22 Care should be taken in interpreting the data in the 'All reasons not available to start work/more hours' and 'Main reason not available to start work/more hours' items. For the 2010-11 MPHS, there has been an increase in 'Caring for children' as the reason for not being available to work. This is due to some people with young children in the 2008-09 MPHS, who indicated that 'Home duties' was their reason for not being available for work, rather than 'Caring for children'.

23 For a more detailed list of available data items and their categories, see Appendix 1 - B&I and R&RI 2010-11 Data Items List.

NEXT SURVEY

24 The ABS plans to conduct this survey again (including the incentives module) during the 2012-13 financial year.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

25 ABS publications draw extensively on information provided freely by individuals, businesses, governments and other organisations. Their continued cooperation is very much appreciated: without it, the wide range of statistics published by the ABS would not be available. Information received by the ABS is treated in strict confidence as required by the **Census and Statistics Act 1905**.

PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

Spreadsheets

26 An electronic version of the tables released in this publication is available on the ABS web site in spreadsheets (cat. no. 6239.0). The spreadsheets present the tables and the

related relative standard errors (RSEs) for each publication table.

Microdata record file

27 A microdata data file will also be available to be tabulated via Survey TableBuilder in early 2012 from the 2010-11 MPHS. This will replace the Confidentialised Unit Record File (CURF) that was accessible through RADL for the 2008-09 MPHS. Further information is available via the ABS website (see Services, Microdata - CURFs and TableBuilder, About Survey TableBuilder).

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

28 ABS publications which may also be of interest include:

- **Australian Labour Market Statistics** (cat. no. 6105.0)
- **Job Search Experience, Australia** (cat. no. 6222.0)
- **Underemployed Workers, Australia** (cat. no. 6265.0)
- **Persons Not in the Labour Force, Australia** (cat. no. 6220.0)
- **Labour Force, Australia** (cat. no. 6202.0)
- **Employment Arrangements, Retirement and Superannuation, Australia** (cat. no. 6361.0)
- **Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods** (cat. no. 6102.0.55.001)
- **Household Use of Information Technology, Australia** (cat. no. 8146.0)

29 Current publications and other products released by the ABS are available from the **Statistics Page** on the ABS website. The ABS also issues a daily **Release Advice** on the website which details products to be released in the week ahead.

Glossary

GLOSSARY

Actively looking for work

People who were taking active steps to find work. Active steps comprise:

- registering with a Job Network employment agency
- contacting an employment agency
- contacting prospective employers
- answering a newspaper advertisement for a job
- checking factory notice boards
- advertising or tendering for work

Available to start work

For people not in the labour force, those who were available to start work in the reference week or within four weeks.

Available to start work with more hours

Employed people who usually worked 0-15 hours per week in all jobs and were available to start work with more hours in the reference week or within four weeks.

Current job

The job in which a person currently works.

Did not prefer to work more hours

People who said 'no' or 'don't know' when asked 'would you prefer to work more hours than you usually work?'.

Did not want a paid job

People who were not classified as employed or unemployed who answered 'no' or 'don't know' when asked if they would like a paid job.

Duration of current main job/last job

Length of time worked in current main job/last job.

Educational attainment

Level of highest educational attainment identifies the highest achievement a person has attained in any area of study. It is defined as the highest educational attainment a person has achieved, and is not a measurement of relative importance of different fields of study.

Employed

People who, during the reference week:

- worked for one hour or more for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind in a job or business, or on a farm (comprising employees, employers and own account workers); or
- worked for one hour or more without pay in a family business or on a farm (i.e. contributing family workers); or
- were employees who had a job but were not at work and were:
 - away from work for less than four weeks up to the end of the reference week; or
 - away from work for more than four weeks up to the end of the reference week and received pay for some or all of the four week period to the end of the reference week; or
 - away from work as a standard work or shift arrangement; or
 - on strike or locked out; or
 - on workers' compensation and expected to return to their job; or
- were employers or own account workers who had a job, business or farm, but were not at work.

Employees

People who work for a public or private employer and receive remuneration in wages,

salary, a retainer fee from their employer while working on a commission basis, tips, piece rates, or payment in kind, or people who operate their own incorporated enterprise with or without hiring employees.

Employees (excluding OMIEs) with paid leave entitlements

Employees (excluding owner managers of incorporated enterprises) (OMIEs), who were entitled to either paid sick leave or paid holiday leave (or both).

Employees (excluding OMIEs) without paid leave entitlements

Employees (excluding OMIEs), who were not entitled to, or did not know whether they were entitled to, paid sick and paid holiday leave.

Employers

People who operate their own unincorporated economic enterprise or engage independently in a profession or trade and hire one or more employees.

Employment types

Classification of employed people according to the following employment type categories on the basis of their main job (i.e. the job in which they usually work the most hours):

Employees (excluding owner managers of incorporated enterprises)

- with paid leave entitlements
- without paid leave entitlements

Owner managers

- owner managers of incorporated enterprises
- owner managers of unincorporated enterprises

Contributing family workers

Family

Two or more people, one of whom is at least 15 years of age, who are related by blood, marriage (registered or de facto), adoption, step or fostering; and who are usually resident in the same household. The basis of a family is formed by identifying the presence of a couple relationship, lone parent-child relationship or other blood relationship. Some households will, therefore, contain more than one family.

Full-time educational attendance

People aged 15-19 who, during the reference week were enrolled full time at secondary or high schools, and those aged 15-24 who, during the reference week, were enrolled full time at a Technical and Further Education (TAFE) college, university, or other tertiary educational institution.

Full-time workers (usual)

Employed people who usually work 35 hours or more a week (in all jobs).

Future starters

People who were not employed during the reference week, were waiting to start a job within four weeks from the end of the reference week, and could have started in the reference week if the job had been available then.

Government pension/allowance

Income support payments from government to persons under social security and related government programs. Included are pensions and allowances received by aged, disabled, unemployed and sick persons, families and children, veterans and their survivors, and study allowances for students. Payments made by overseas governments as well as the Australian government are included.

Gross income

Regular and recurring cash receipts including monies received from wages and salaries, government pensions and allowances, and other regular receipts such as superannuation, workers' compensation, child support, scholarships, profit or loss from own unincorporated business or partnership, and property income. Gross income is the sum of current income from all these sources before income tax or the Medicare levy have been deducted.

Group jack-knife method

This method of calculating standard errors starts by dividing the survey sample into a number of approximately equal-sized groups (replicate groups). Replicate estimates of the population total are then calculated from the sample by excluding each replicate group in turn. The jack-knife variance is derived from the variation of the respective replicate estimates around the estimate based on the whole sample.

Had ever worked for two weeks or more

People who are not in the labour force or are unemployed and have previously worked for two weeks or more.

Had previously worked

People who are not in the labour force or are unemployed, who have previously worked for two weeks or more, less than 20 years ago.

Incorporated enterprise

An enterprise which is registered as a separate legal entity to its members or owners. Also known as a limited liability company.

Industry

An industry relates to a group of businesses or organisations that perform similar sets of activities in terms of the production of goods and services. In this publication, industry is classified according to the **Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC), 2006** (cat.no.1292.0).

Labour force

The civilian population can be split into two mutually exclusive groups: the labour force (employed and unemployed people) and people not in the labour force.

Last job

Refers to last job less than 20 years ago.

Looking for work with more hours

Refers to persons who indicated that they had done something in the last four weeks to obtain more hours of work.

Main English-speaking countries

The list of Main English Speaking Countries provided here is not an attempt to classify countries on the basis of whether or not English is the predominant or official language of each country. It is a list of the main countries from which Australia receives, or has received, significant numbers of overseas settlers who are likely to speak English. These countries comprise the United Kingdom, the Republic of Ireland, New Zealand, Canada, South Africa, and the United States of America.

Main job

The job in which most hours were usually worked.

Non-school qualification

Non-school qualifications are awarded for educational attainments other than those of pre-primary, primary or secondary education. They include qualifications at the Post Graduate Degree level, Master Degree level, Graduate Diploma and Graduate Certificate level, Bachelor Degree level, Advanced Diploma and Diploma level, and Certificates I, II, III and IV levels. Non-school qualifications may be attained concurrently with school qualifications.

Not employed

People who are either unemployed or not in the labour force.

Occupation

An occupation relates to a collection of jobs that are sufficiently similar in their title and tasks, skill level and skill specialisation which are grouped together for the purposes of classification. In this publication, occupation is classified according to [ANZSCO - Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations, First Edition, Revision 1, 2009](#) (cat.no.1220.0).

Owner managers

People who work in their own business, with or without employees, whether or not the business is of limited liability.

Owner managers of incorporated enterprises

People who work in their own incorporated enterprise, that is, a business entity which is registered as a separate legal entity to its members or owners (also known as a limited

liability company).

Owner managers of unincorporated enterprises

People who operate their own unincorporated enterprise, that is, a business entity in which the owner and the business are legally inseparable, so that the owner is liable for any business debts that are incurred. Includes those engaged independently in a trade or profession.

Part-time workers (usual)

Employed people who usually worked less than 35 hours a week (in all jobs).

Persons in the labour force

People who were classified as being in the labour force, that is, either employed or unemployed.

Persons not in the labour force

People who were not classified as employed or unemployed.

Preferred to work more hours

Employed people who usually work 0-15 hours each week and would prefer to work more hours than they usually work.

Reference week

The week preceding the week in which the interview was conducted.

Relationship in household

The relationship of people who live in the same household.

Status in employment

Employed people classified according to whether they were employees, employers, own account workers, or contributing family workers.

Time since last job

The elapsed time since ceasing last job.

Took inactive steps

People who did not take active steps to look for work (see actively looking for work). Includes only looked in newspapers.

Unemployed

People who were not employed during the reference week, and:

- had actively looked for full-time or part-time work at any time in the four weeks up to the end of the reference week and were available for work in the reference week; or

- were waiting to start a new job within four weeks from the end of the reference week and could have started in the reference week if the job had been available then.

Unincorporated enterprise

A business entity in which the owner and the business are legally inseparable, so that the owner is liable for any business debts that are incurred.

Unpaid activities

Includes caring for own children or other people's children including grandchildren. Also includes caring for elderly or someone with long-term illness or disability or unpaid voluntary workers. Respondents were asked whether they had undertaken any of these activities in the last four weeks.

Usual hours worked

The hours usually worked per week by an employed person.

Wanted a paid job

People who are not in the labour force and would like a paid job of any kind. Includes people who said 'depends'.

Wanted more hours

See 'Preferred to work more hours'.

Abbreviations

ABBREVIATIONS

'000	thousand
ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ANZSCO	Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations
ANZSIC	Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification
ASCED	Australian Standard Classification of Education
ASCO	Australian Standard Classification of Occupations
CURF	confidentialised unit record file
LFS	Labour Force Survey
MPHS	Multipurpose Household Survey
MPS	Monthly Population Survey
OMIE	owner manager of incorporated enterprise
RSE	relative standard error
SACC	Standard Australian Classification of Countries
SE	standard error

Populations and Data Item List (Appendix) (Appendix)

APPENDIX POPULATIONS AND DATA ITEMS LIST

DATA AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

The ABS has a range of data available on request from the Barriers and Incentives to Labour Force Participation topic. This section lists the data items and populations to which they relate. Full details of these data items are available on the ABS website in an Excel spreadsheet, as a data cube (Appendix 1 - B&I and R&RI 2010-11 Data Items List).

The population(s) for a particular data item refers to the people in the survey to whom the data relates. Where alternative output categories are available for the same data item, these are shown and the data item name is followed by a bracketed numeral (e.g. country of birth (2)).

To obtain data available on request, or for more information about our customised data service contact Labour Market Statistics in Canberra on (02) 6252 7206 or by facsimile on (02) 6252 5066, or by email to <labour.statistics@abs.gov.au>.

Population 1

All persons aged 18 years and over

Population 2

Employed persons

Population 3

Unemployed persons

Population 4

Persons not in the labour force

Population 5

Persons who wanted a paid job

Population 6

Persons who wanted a paid job but were not available to start within four weeks

Population 7

Persons who wanted a paid job, were available to start within four weeks, but were not actively looking for a job

Population 8

Persons who wanted a paid job, were available to start within four weeks, and were actively looking for a job

Population 9

Persons who did not want a paid job or did not know

Population 10

Persons who usually worked 0-15 hours per week

Population 11

Persons who preferred to work more hours

Population 12

Persons who preferred to work more hours, but were not available to start within four weeks

Population 13

Persons who preferred to work more hours, were available to start within four weeks, but were not looking for work with more hours

Population 14

Persons who preferred to work more hours, were available to start within four weeks, and were looking for work with more hours

Population 15

Persons who did not prefer to work more hours

Populations

Demographic characteristics		
1	State or territory of usual residence	All
2	Area of usual residence	All
3	Region of usual residence	All
4	Sex	All
5	Marital status	All
6	Relationship in household	All

7	Whether household had children aged under 15	All
8A	Country of birth and period of arrival	All
8B	Country of birth (1)	All
8C	Country of birth (2)	All
9	Age group (years)	All
10	Age of youngest child in household (years)	All
11	Number of children aged less than 15 years	All
	Partner's demographics	
78A	Partner's age	All
79	Partner's labour force status	All
80	Partner's full-time or part-time status in employment	All
80A	Partner's full-time or part-time status by usual hours	All
	Education	
12	Whether currently studying	9, 10-15
13	Whether completed primary school	3-15
14	Level of highest non-school qualification	3-15
15	Level of highest educational attainment	3-15
16	Level of highest school educational attainment	3-15
17	Main field of highest non-school qualification	3-15
18	Main field of highest educational attainment	3-15
19	Age and whether attending an educational institution	All
	Unpaid activities	
20	Unpaid activities in last four weeks	3-15
	Labour force characteristics	
21	Hours usually worked in all jobs	2, 10-15
22	Duration of current period of unemployment	3
23	Status in employment	2, 10-15
24	Full-time or part-time status in employment	2, 10-15
25	Full-time or part-time status by usual hours	2, 10-15
26	Labour force status	All
	Current main job details	
27	Hours usually worked in current main job	10-15
28	Full-time or part-time status in current main job	10-15
29	Employment type in current main job	10-15
30	Occupation of current main job	10-15
31	Industry of current main job	10-15
32	Duration of current main job	10-15
	Previous job details	
33	Whether had ever worked	3-9
34	Previous job full-time or part-time	3-9
35	Time since last job	3-9
36	Employment type of last job	3-9
37	Occupation of last job	3-9
38	Industry of last job	3-9
39	Hours usually worked per week in last job	3-9
40	Duration of last job	3-9
41	Reason for ceasing last job	3-9
	Previous full-time job details	
42	Whether had ever held a full-time job	3-15
43	Whether last full-time job was with same employer as current job	10-15
44	Whether last full-time job was with same employer as last job	3-9
45	Time since last full-time job	3-9
46	Employment type of last full-time job	3-15
47	Occupation of last full-time job	3-15
48	Industry of last full-time job	3-15
49	Hours usually worked per week in last full-time job	3-15
50	Duration of last full-time job	3-15
51	Reason for ceasing last full-time job	3-15
	Want to more (more)	
52	Whether preferred to work more hours than usually worked	10-15
53	Preferred number of hours	5-9, 11-14
54	Whether wanted a paid job	3-9
55	Preferred length/tenure of job	5-8
56	Whether would accept a short-term/temporary job	5-8
57	All reasons for not wanting work/more hours	9, 15
58	Main reason for not wanting work/more hours	9, 15

	Available to work (more)	
59	Whether available to start work/more hours in the reference week	5, 7-8, 11, 13-14
60	Time until available to start work/more hours	5-8, 10-14
60A	All reasons not available to start work/more hours	6, 12
61	Main reason not available to start work/more hours	6, 12
62	Main childcare reason not available to start work/more hours	6, 12
	Looking for (more) work	
63	Whether looked for work	3-9
64	Whether looked for more hours	11-14
65	Looked for full-time or part-time work	3
66	All reasons not looking for work/more hours	6-7, 12-13
67	Main reason not looking for work/more hours	6-7, 12-13
68	Main childcare reason not looking for work/more hours	6-7, 12-13
	Difficulties finding (more) work	
69	All difficulties finding work/more hours	3, 8, 14
70	Main difficulty finding work/more hours	3, 8, 14
	Current income details	
71	Current weekly gross personal income from all sources	All
72	All sources of current personal income	All
73	Main source of current personal income	All
74	All types of government pensions/allowance received	All
	Partner's current income details	
75	Partner's current weekly gross income from all sources	3-15
76	All sources of partner's current personal income	3-15
77	Main source of partner's current personal income	3-15
78	All types of partner's Government pensions/allowances received	3-15
	Household income	
81	Total gross weekly household income from all sources	All

Quality Declaration - Summary

QUALITY DECLARATION – SUMMARY

INSTITUTIONAL ENVIRONMENT

For information on the institutional environment of the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), including the legislative obligations of the ABS, financing and governance arrangements, and mechanisms for scrutiny of ABS operations, please see ABS Institutional Environment.

RELEVANCE

The Barriers and Incentives to Labour Force Participation survey provides data on people aged 18 years and over who are either not employed or work less than 16 hours. The Barriers and Incentives to Labour Force Participation topic is designed to bring various aspects of factors which influence labour force participation into one data source for comparison. The survey provides information on the potential labour force and what is preventing these people finding or taking up (more) work. The related supplementary surveys of Persons in the labour force, Australia (cat. no. 6220.0), Underemployed workers, Australia (cat. no. 6265.0) and Job Search Experience, Australia (cat. no. 6222.0) offer more detailed information on the various populations.

For a complete list of populations and data items collected in this survey see Appendix – B&I and R&RI 2010-11 Data Items List.

TIMELINESS

The Barriers and Incentives to Labour Force Participation survey is collected biennially, and was first conducted in 2004–05. The most recent Barriers and Incentives to Labour Force Participation survey was conducted throughout Australia during the 2010–11 financial year. It was a component of the 2010–11 Multipurpose Household Survey (MPHS), collected as a supplement to the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Labour Force Survey (LFS). Results from the survey is released approximately six months after the completion of enumeration i.e. during December, in the publication Barriers and Incentives to Labour Force Participation (cat. no. 6239.0).

ACCURACY

The number of completed interviews (after taking into account scope and coverage exclusions) for the Barriers and Incentives to Labour Force Participation survey was 5,374. The response rate was approximately 80% after taking the exclusions into account. See the Explanatory Notes (paragraph 11) for more information. The exclusion of people living in very remote parts of Australia has only a minor impact on aggregate estimates, except for the Northern Territory where these people account for around 23% of the population.

Estimates from the survey are subject to sampling and non-sampling errors.

The MPHS was designed primarily to provide estimates at the Australia level. Broad estimates are available for states and territories, though users should exercise caution when using estimates at this level because of the presence of high sampling errors. RSEs for all estimates in the publication are available on the ABS website. As a guide, estimates and RSEs for Table 1 and Table 2 are presented in the Technical note.

COHERENCE

No new content was included in the 2010–11 survey, as it only contained core content. As a result, questions on incentives to join or increase participation in the labour force and self assessed health that were included in the 2008–09 survey, have been excluded.

Care should be taken in interpreting the data in the 'All reasons not available to start work/more hours' and 'Main reason not available to start work/more hours' items. For the 2010–11 MPHS, there has been an increase in 'Caring for children' from 'home duties' as the reason for not being available to work. In the 2008–09 MPHS, 'Home duties' was given as a reason for not being available for work, rather than 'Caring for children'.

The related supplementary surveys of Persons not in the labour force, Australia (cat. no. 6220.0), Underemployed Workers, Australia (cat. no. 6265.0) and Job Search Experience, Australia (cat. no. 6222.0) offer more detailed information on the various populations. Data from these supplementary surveys are not directly comparable with data from Barriers and Incentives to Labour Force Participation as there are differences in scope, collection methodology and sample design (including sample size). For example, the three supplementary surveys are conducted in a particular month each year, whereas Barriers and Incentives to Labour Force Participation data are usually collected over the 12 months of a financial year (for 2004–05, the survey was conducted over 11 months). Information for the supplementary surveys is collected using the Any Responsible Adult methodology, whereas the Barriers and Incentives topic uses personal interviewing. For more information see chapters 21 and 22 of Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods (cat. no. 6102.0.55.001).

INTERPRETABILITY

The Barriers and Incentives to Labour Force Participation publication contains detailed Explanatory Notes, Technical Notes and a Glossary that provide information on the

terminology, classifications and other technical aspects associated with these statistics.

Seasonally adjusted and trend estimates are not produced. The estimates are based on information collected over the financial year. However, seasonal weighting is not undertaken.

Further commentary is often available through articles and data published in other ABS products, including:

Australian Labour Market Statistics (cat. no. 6105.0) - refer to appendix 2 for past articles.

Australian Social Trends (cat. no. 4102.0) - refer to the Cumulative list of articles for past articles.

Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods (cat. no. 6102.0.55.001).

Year Book, Australia (cat. no. 1301.0) - refer to the 'Labour' chapter.

ACCESSIBILITY

In addition to the PDF publication, the tables and associated RSEs will be available in spreadsheet form on the website.

Data is available on request. Note that detailed data can be subject to high relative standard errors and, in some cases, may result in data being confidentialised.

A microdata data file will be available to be tabulated via Survey TableBuilder in early 2012 from the 2010-11 MPHS. This will replace the Confidentialised Unit Record File (CURF) that was accessible through RADL for the 2008-09 MPHS. Further information is available via the ABS Website (see Services, Microdata - CURFs and TableBuilder, About Survey TableBuilder).

For further information about these or related statistics, contact the National Information and referral centre on 1300 135 070 or Labour Market Statistics Section in Canberra on (02) 6252 7206 or by facsimile on (02) 6252 5066, or by email to <labour.statistics@abs.gov.au>.

Data Quality (Technical Note)

TECHNICAL NOTE DATA QUALITY

INTRODUCTION

1 Since the estimates published in this publication are based on information obtained from occupants of a sample of dwellings, they are subject to sampling variability. That is, they may differ from those estimates that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey. One measure of the likely difference is given by the standard error (SE), which indicates the extent to which an estimate might have varied by chance because only a sample of dwellings (or occupants) was included. There are about two chances in three (67%) that a sample estimate will differ by less than one SE from the number that would have been obtained if all dwellings had been included, and about 19 chances in 20 (95%) that the difference will be less than two SEs.

2 Another measure of the likely difference is the relative standard error (RSE), which is

obtained by expressing the SE as a percentage of the estimate.

$$\text{RSE\%} = (\text{SE/estimate}) \times 100$$

3 RSEs for Barriers and Incentives estimates have been calculated using the Jackknife method of variance estimation. This process involves the calculation of 30 'replicate' estimates based on 30 different subsamples of the original sample. The variability of estimates obtained from these subsamples is used to estimate the sample variability surrounding the main estimate.

4 Limited publication space does not allow for the separate indication of the SEs and/or RSEs of all the estimates in this publication. However, RSEs for all these estimates are available free-of-charge on the ABS web site www.abs.gov.au, released in spreadsheet format as an attachment to this publication, **Barriers and Incentives to Labour Force Participation, Australia** (cat. no. 6239.0). As a guide, the population estimates and RSEs for selected data from table 1 and 2 are presented at table T1 and table T2 in this Technical Note.

5 In the tables in this publication, only estimates (numbers, percentages, means and medians) with RSEs less than 25% are considered sufficiently reliable for most purposes. However, estimates with larger RSEs have been included and are preceded by an asterisk (e.g. *13.5) to indicate they are subject to high SEs and should be used with caution. Estimates with RSEs greater than 50% are preceded by a double asterisk (e.g. **2.1) to indicate that they are considered too unreliable for general use.

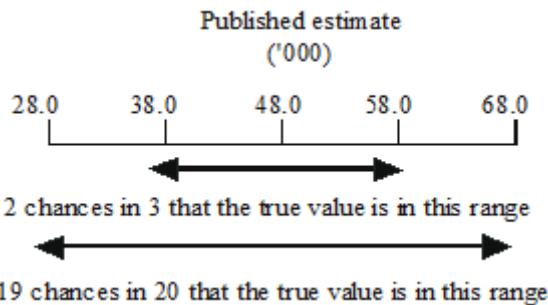
CALCULATION OF STANDARD ERROR AND RELATIVE STANDARD ERROR

6 RSEs are routinely presented as the measure of sampling error in this publication and related products. SEs can be calculated using the estimates (counts or means) and the corresponding RSEs.

7 An example of the calculation of the SE from an RSE follows. Table T2 shows that the estimated number of females aged 18-24 years who did not prefer to work more hours is 48,000, and the RSE for this estimate is 20.8%. The SE is:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{SE of estimate} \\ &= (\text{RSE} / 100) \times \text{estimate} \\ &= 0.208 \times 48,000 \\ &= 10,000 \text{ (rounded to the nearest 100)} \end{aligned}$$

8 Therefore, there are about two chances in three that the value that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey will fall within the range 38,000 to 58,000 and about 19 chances in 20 that the value will fall within the range 28,000 to 68,000. This example is illustrated in the following diagram.



Proportions and percentages

9 Proportions and percentages formed from the ratio of two estimates are also subject to sampling errors. The size of the error depends on the accuracy of both the numerator and the denominator. A formula to approximate the RSEs of proportions not provided in the spreadsheets is given below. This formula is only valid when x is a subset of y .

$$RSE\left(\frac{x}{y}\right) = \sqrt{[RSE(x)]^2 - [RSE(y)]^2}$$

10 Considering table T2, of the 677,700 females who worked 0-15 hours each week, 489,000 or 72.2% did not prefer to work more hours. The RSE of 489,000 is 5.1% and the RSE for 677,700 is 3.7%. Applying the above formula, the RSE for the proportion of females who did not prefer to work more hours is:

$$RSE = \sqrt{(5.1)^2 - (3.7)^2} = 3.5\%$$

11 Therefore, the SE for the proportion of females working 0-15 hours per week who did not prefer more hours is 2.5 percentage points ($= (72.2/100) \times 3.5$). Therefore, there are about two chances in three that the proportion of females working 0-15 hours per week who did not prefer more hours is between 69.7% and 74.7%, and 19 chances in 20 that the proportion is within the range 67.2% to 77.2%.

Sums or Differences between estimates

12 Published estimates may also be used to calculate the sum of, or difference between, two survey estimates (of numbers, means or percentages) where these are not provided in the spreadsheets. Such estimates are also subject to sampling error.

13 The sampling error of the difference between two estimates depends on their SEs and the relationship (correlation) between them. An approximate SE of the difference between two estimates ($x-y$) may be calculated by the following formula:

$$SE(x-y) = \sqrt{[SE(x)]^2 + [SE(y)]^2}$$

14 The sampling error of the sum of two estimates is calculated in a similar way. An approximate SE of the sum of two estimates ($x+y$) may be calculated by the following formula:

$$SE(x+y) = \sqrt{[SE(x)]^2 + [SE(y)]^2}$$

15 An example follows. From paragraph 7 the estimated number of females aged 18-24 years who did not prefer to work more hours is 48,000 and the SE is 10,000. From table T2, the estimate of females aged 25-34 years who did not prefer to work more hours is

80,400, and the SE is 9,728. The estimate of females aged 18-34 years who preferred not to work more hours is:

$$48,000 + 80,400 = 128,400$$

16 The SE of the estimate of females aged 18-34 years who did not prefer to work more hours is:

$$SE = \sqrt{(10,000)^2 + (9,728)^2} = 13,950(\text{rounded})$$

17 Therefore, there are about two chances in three that the value that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey will fall within the range 114,450 to 142,350 and about 19 chances in 20 that the value will fall within the range 100,500 to 156,300.

18 While these formulae will only be exact for sums of, or differences between, separate and uncorrelated characteristics or subpopulations, it is expected to provide a good approximation for all sums or differences likely to be of interest in this publication.

SELECTED ESTIMATES AND RSES

T1 PERSONS AGED 18 YEARS AND OVER, Labour force status - By sex

	Males	Females	Persons
ESTIMATES ('000)			
Persons in the labour force	6 318.1	5 183.1	11 501.2
Employed	6 045.8	4 982.7	11 028.5
Persons who usually worked 16 hours or more per week	5 778.9	4 305.0	10 083.9
Persons who usually worked 0-15 hours per week	266.9	677.7	944.6
Preferred to work more hours	84.8	188.7	273.5
Available to start work with more hours(a)	*82.9	*161.7	244.6
Looked for more hours	42.2	93.3	135.5
Did not look for more hours	*40.7	68.4	109.1
Not available to start work with more hours	**1.8	27.1	28.9
Did not prefer to work more hours(b)	182.2	489.0	671.1
Unemployed	272.3	200.4	472.7
Persons not in the labour force	1 883.1	3 126.8	5 009.9
Wanted a paid job(c)	322.0	648.6	970.6
Available to start work(a)	*227.3	*465.6	*693.0
Actively looked for work(d)	*13.9	*11.7	*25.6
Did not actively look for work(e)	213.5	454.0	667.4
Not available or did not know if available to start work	94.6	182.1	276.7
Did not want a paid job	1 561.2	2 478.2	4 039.4
Total	8 201.3	8 309.9	16 511.2

	RSES OF ESTIMATES (%)		
Persons in the labour force	0.6	0.9	0.5
Employed	0.7	1.0	0.7
Persons who usually worked 16 hours or more per week	0.8	1.3	0.8
Persons who usually worked 0-15 hours per week	6.3	3.7	2.7

Preferred to work more hours	16.0	10.0	7.5
Available to start work with more hours(a)	43.8	25.4	21.6
Looked for more hours	18.8	12.8	9.7
Did not look for more hours	25.0	12.6	11.9
Not available to start work with more hours	69.1	24.7	23.0
Did not prefer to work more hours(b)	8.1	5.1	3.9
Unemployed	10.1	9.6	6.5
Persons not in the labour force	1.8	1.4	1.2
Wanted a paid job(c)	7.1	5.7	4.6
Available to start work(a)	44.9	47.0	31.8
Actively looked for work(d)	35.0	40.7	26.6
Did not actively look for work	9.8	6.3	5.1
Not available or did not know if available to start work(e)	12.7	11.4	8.3
Did not want a paid job	2.2	1.3	1.1
Total	-	-	-

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

- nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Availability refers to in the reference week or within four weeks.

(b) Includes people who reported 'Did not know'.

(c) Includes people who reported 'Maybe/it depends'.

(d) These people were not available to start work in the reference week so are defined as not in the labour force rather than unemployed.

(e) Includes 42,300 people (16,700 men and 25,600 women) who wanted a paid job and reported 'Looked, not actively'.

T2 PERSONS AGED 18 YEARS AND OVER, USUALLY WORKED 0-15 HOURS PER WEEK OR WERE NOT EMPLOYED, Whether wanted a job or more hours - By age

	PERSONS WHO USUALLY WORKED 0-15 HOURS PER WEEK			PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE			
	Preferred to work more hours	Did not prefer to work more hours(a)	Total	Unemployed	Wanted a paid job(b)	Did not want a paid job(a)	Total
ESTIMATES ('000)							
Males							
18-24	*30.4	49.2	79.6	79.9	58.1	62.9	121.0
25-34	*12.9	*19.4	32.3	*60.5	39.1	40.5	79.6
35-44	**6.5	**3.8	*10.3	42.0	43.7	51.1	94.8
45-54	*15.3	**7.6	22.9	*36.7	46.3	86.4	132.7
55-64	*16.6	52.1	68.7	48.6	75.2	231.8	307.1
65 and over	**3.1	50.0	53.1	**4.6	59.6	1 088.4	1 148.0
<i>Total</i>	<i>84.8</i>	<i>182.2</i>	<i>266.9</i>	<i>272.3</i>	<i>322.0</i>	<i>1 561.2</i>	<i>1 883.1</i>
Females							
18-24	38.4	48.0	86.4	37.9	81.1	77.0	158.1
25-34	*24.1	80.4	104.5	49.8	176.1	247.5	423.7
35-44	61.2	134.5	195.7	53.6	116.0	217.2	333.2
45-54	50.8	94.7	145.5	40.1	92.1	209.7	301.8
55-64	*9.5	83.9	93.4	*18.6	110.1	492.3	602.4
65 and over	**4.8	47.4	52.2	**0.5	73.1	1 234.4	1 307.6
<i>Total</i>	<i>188.7</i>	<i>489.0</i>	<i>677.7</i>	<i>200.4</i>	<i>648.6</i>	<i>2 478.2</i>	<i>3 126.8</i>
Persons							
18-24	68.7	97.3	166.0	117.8	139.2	139.9	279.2
25-34	37.0	99.8	136.8	110.3	215.2	288.0	503.3
35-44	67.7	138.3	206.0	95.6	159.6	268.4	428.0
45-54	66.1	102.3	168.4	76.8	138.4	296.1	434.5

55-64	26.1	136.0	162.1	67.2	185.4	724.1	909.5
65 and over	*7.9	97.4	105.3	*5.1	132.7	2 322.8	2 455.5
Total	273.5	671.1	944.6	472.7	970.6	4 039.4	5 009.9

RSES OR ESTIMATES (%)

Males

18-24	32.2	17.6	14.0	15.8	20.9	17.5	11.1
25-34	35.9	27.9	22.3	26.1	20.5	21.6	16.3
35-44	55.9	51.5	38.9	23.1	20.2	16.5	12.4
45-54	25.5	50.8	22.1	26.3	16.7	13.3	10.4
55-64	28.0	19.4	16.0	21.4	14.6	7.5	6.0
65 and over	73.1	18.2	18.0	53.9	15.2	2.0	2.0
<i>Total</i>	<i>16.0</i>	<i>8.1</i>	<i>6.3</i>	<i>10.1</i>	<i>7.1</i>	<i>2.2</i>	<i>1.8</i>

Females

18-24	24.6	20.8	14.8	24.8	15.3	16.8	12.7
25-34	25.7	12.1	9.6	15.4	10.4	9.2	5.0
35-44	15.4	8.7	7.1	19.0	7.0	6.5	5.4
45-54	17.0	17.4	11.1	20.5	13.6	8.2	7.3
55-64	35.7	14.6	12.6	27.5	14.3	5.5	4.9
65 and over	54.7	18.9	17.1	103.6	15.4	1.2	1.0
<i>Total</i>	<i>10.0</i>	<i>5.1</i>	<i>3.7</i>	<i>9.6</i>	<i>5.7</i>	<i>1.3</i>	<i>1.4</i>

Persons

18-24	18.8	11.5	9.8	10.7	12.9	11.5	9.7
25-34	22.3	10.7	8.9	16.8	9.5	8.4	5.1
35-44	13.4	9.0	7.0	13.7	6.7	6.8	5.0
45-54	13.7	15.9	9.7	16.7	9.9	7.9	6.3
55-64	19.6	12.6	10.3	17.4	10.2	4.3	3.7
65 and over	42.5	13.1	11.8	47.8	12.1	1.1	1.1
Total	7.5	3.9	2.7	6.5	4.6	1.1	1.2

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(a) Includes people who reported 'Did not know'.

(b) Includes people who reported 'Maybe/it depends'.